

INCORPORATING LARGE-SCALE CITIZEN DELIBERATION INTO ENVIRONMENTAL CONFLICT RESOLUTION

AmericaSpeaks presentation to the 2008 ECR Conference

Table Introductions



Please form groups of 4-5 and give:

- Your name
- Your organization and role there
- What's one thing you hope to get out of today?

Each group will present 1-2 hopes from their group.

Outcomes & Agenda



Our intended outcomes:

- Orient you to the emerging field of deliberative democracy and the goals behind incorporating citizen deliberation into ECR processes.
- Review case two studies of AmericaSpeaks' incorporation of stakeholder engagement with citizen deliberation.
- Provide you with resources to enable you to choose appropriate citizen deliberation models in your future ECR work.

Agenda

- Intro *AmericaSpeaks* and theory behind citizen deliberation
- Case Studies – Voices & Choices and Unified New Orleans Plan
- XX

AmericaSpeaks



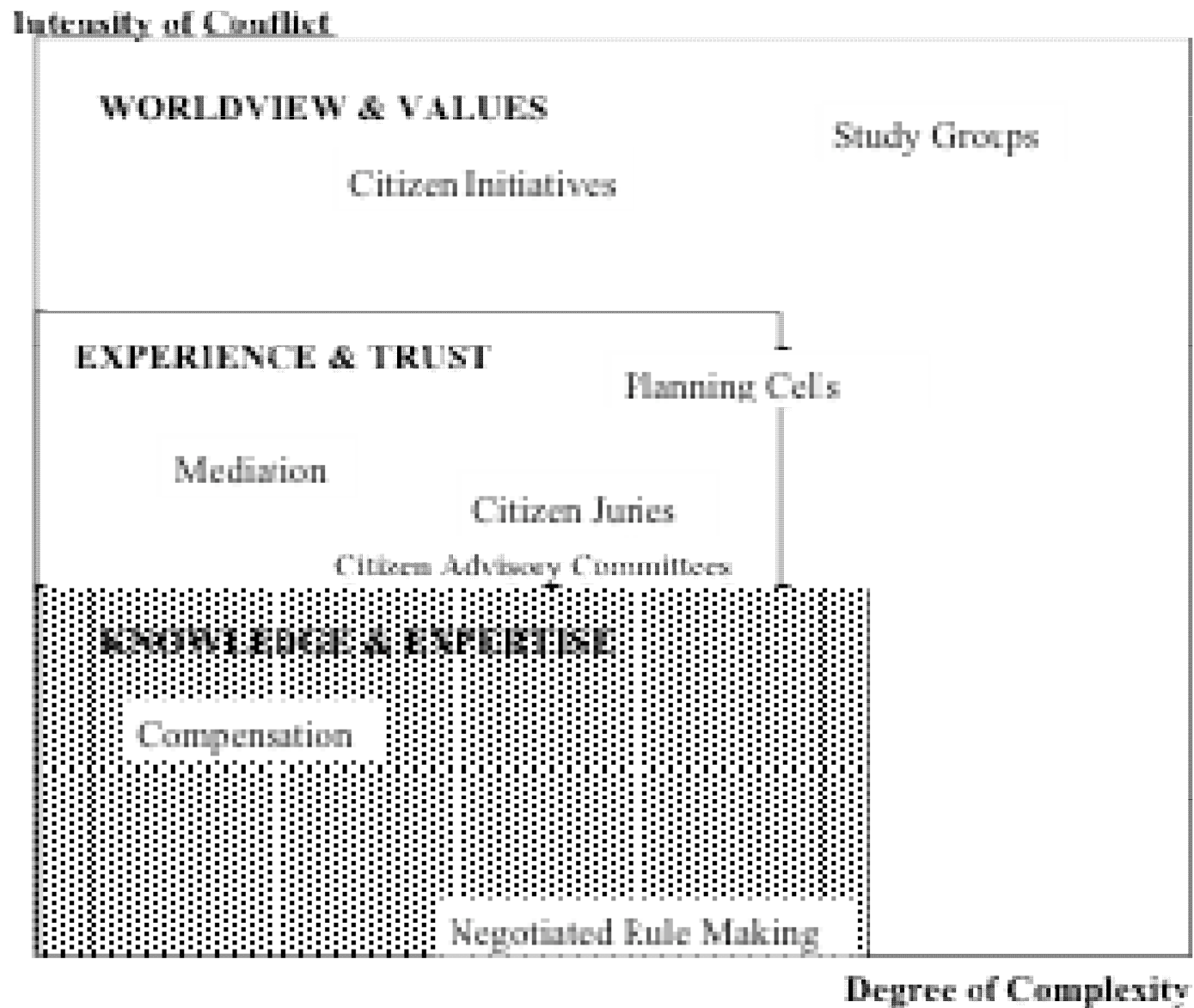
Vision

- What's our vision of the relationship between negotiation/mediation and deliberative democracy?

Shared theory from the citizen engagement and conflict resolution fields

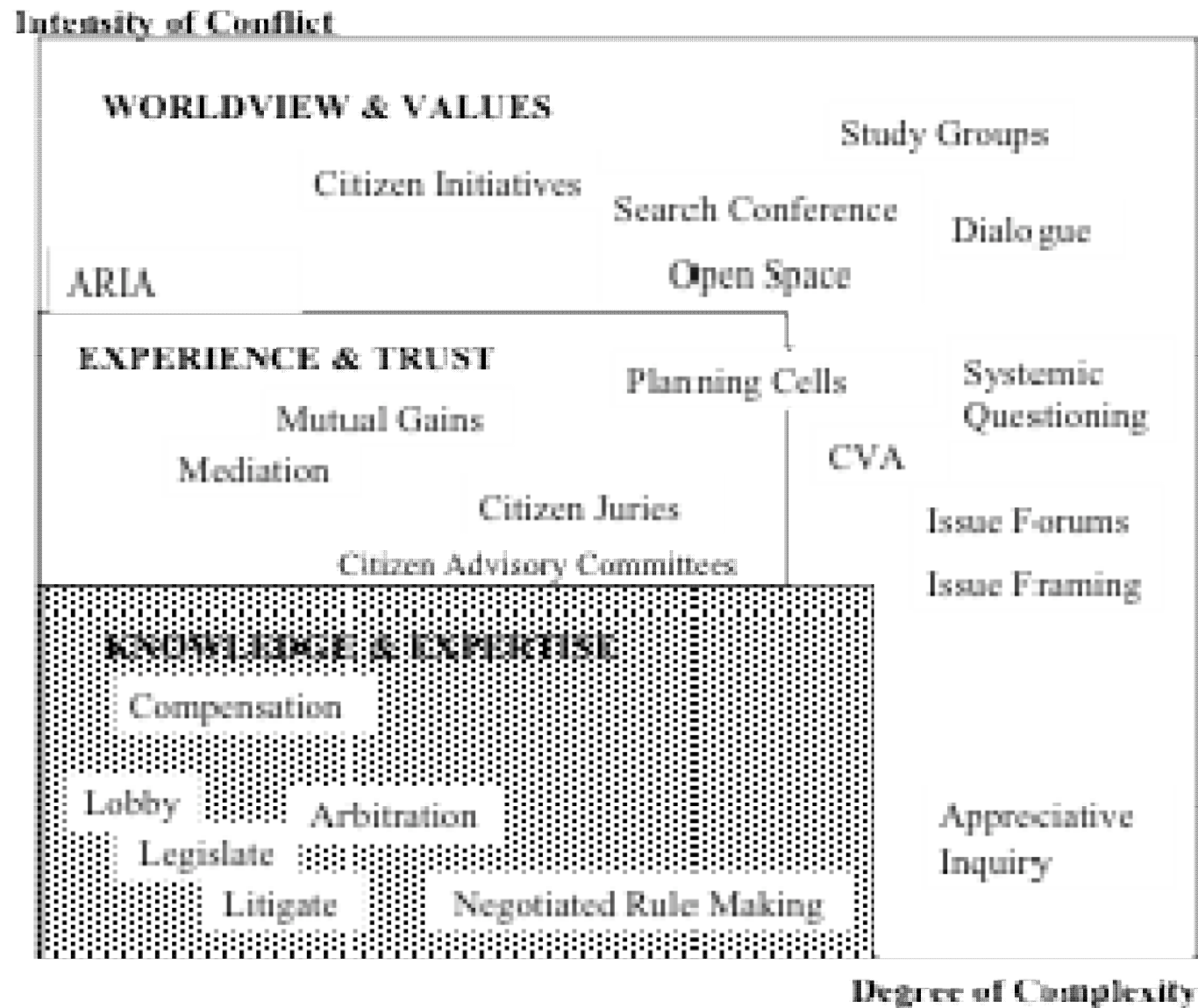
- Game theory - tragedy of the commons
- Positive-sum games / collective action
- Renn's model
- IAP2 Continuum

Renn's Model



Renn's Expanded Model

Fiero, 2000




Shared Goals of citizen engagement and conflict resolution fields



- Avoid litigation, facilitative leadership, collaborative governance, listening
- Difference between stakeholders / interest groups and general interest citizens. Our goal is to enable citizens to have a more direct voice in shaping the laws that affect them.
- Where might large-scale citizen participation fit best?

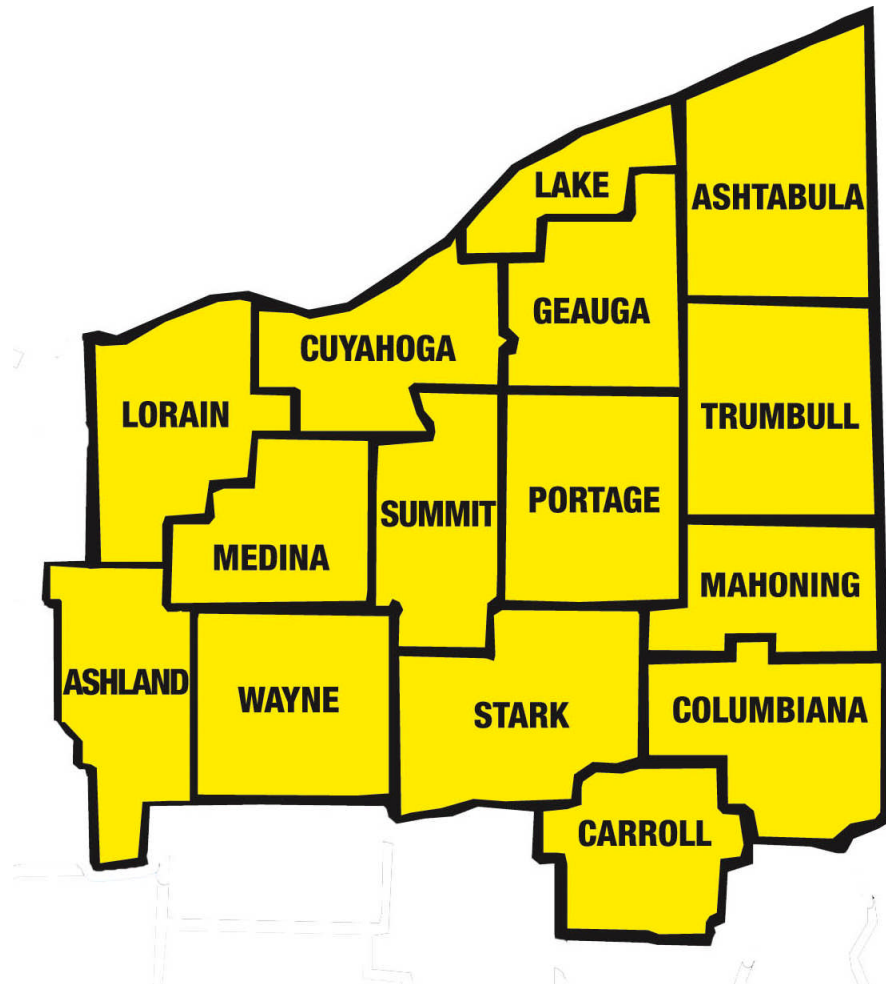
IAP2 Continuum



INCREASING LEVEL OF PUBLIC IMPACT				
INFORM	CONSULT	INVOLVE	COLLABORATE	EMPOWER
Objective	Objective	Objective	Objective	Objective
To provide the public with balanced and objective information to assist them in understanding the problem, alternatives, or solutions	To obtain public feedback on analysis, alternatives, or decisions	To work directly with the public throughout the process to ensure that public and private concerns are consistently understood and considered	To partner with the public in each aspect of the decision including the development of alternatives and the identification of the preferred solution	To place final decision making in the hands of the public
Promise to the public	Promise to the public	Promise to the public	Promise to the public	Promise to the public
We will keep you informed	We will keep you informed, listen to and acknowledge your concerns, and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will work with you to ensure that your concerns and issues are directly reflected in the alternatives developed and provide feedback on how public input influenced the decision	We will look to you for direct advice and innovation in formulating solutions and incorporate your advice and recommendations into the decisions to the maximum extent possible	To place final decision making in the hands of the public

Source: IAP2 International Association for Public Participation.

Case Study: Voices & Choices



- 15 Counties
- 4 Million People
- Major Cities: Cleveland, Akron, Canton, Youngstown

Economic Conditions



- ❑ Rust-belt economy struggling to transition and compete in global economy
- ❑ 117 months of sub-par job growth and three cycles of devastating manufacturing closings and job losses
- ❑ Highly fragmented governance
- ❑ High public pessimism for future of region

Voices & Choices Process

PHASE I

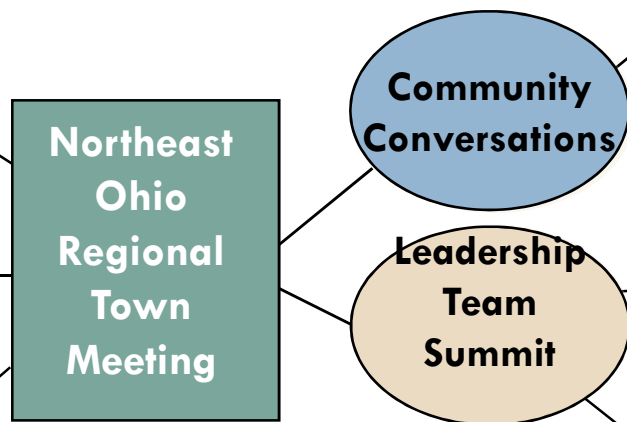
ID Strengths
and Challenges



May - Oct. 2005

PHASE II

Define Vision and
Challenges;
Prioritize Challenges



Oct. - May 2006

PHASE III

Create and
Prioritize Solutions



June - Oct. 2006

PHASE IV

Implemen-
tation



Leadership Workshops

- ❑ 1,058 leaders participated
- ❑ Strong geographic and sectoral diversity (low with labor & agriculture)
- ❑ Low African American in Cuyahoga, Low Latino in Lorain & Mahoning



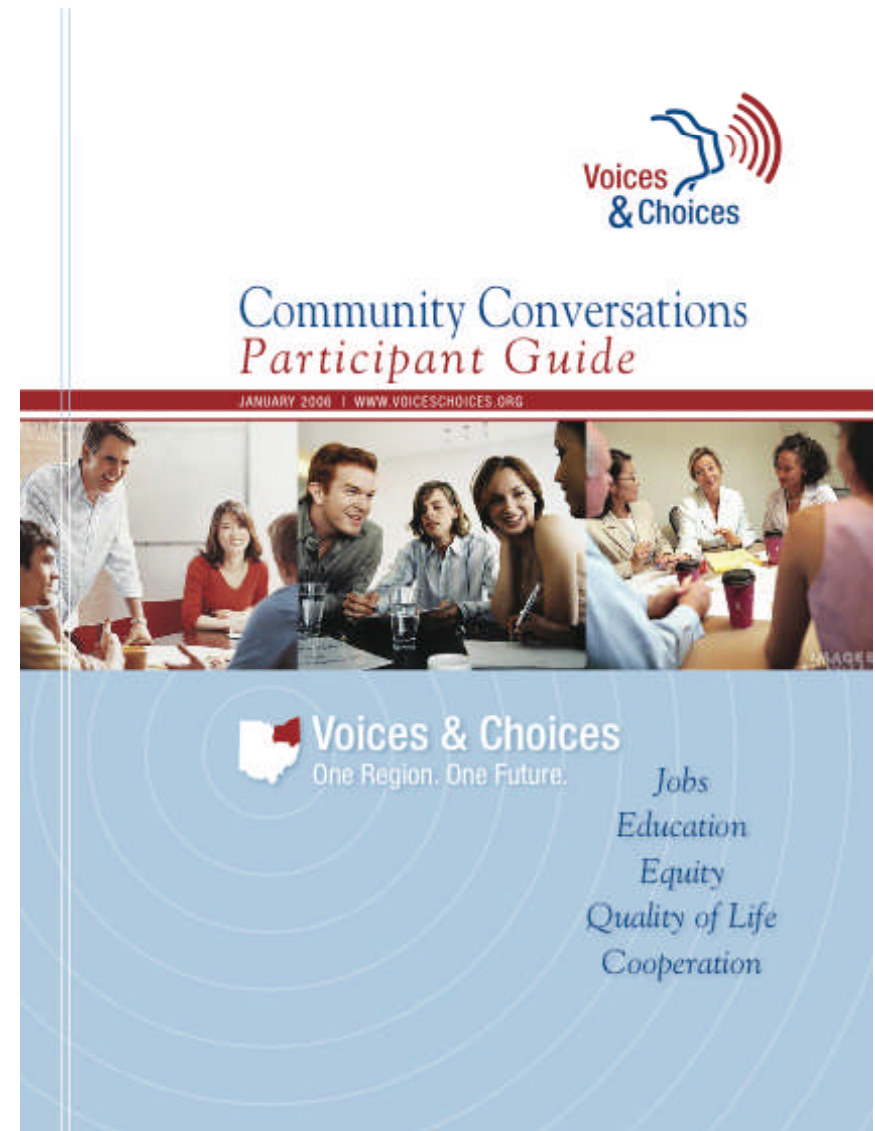
Regional Town Meeting I: Participation

- About 750 people (including facilitators)
- Good age diversity
- Exceeded target among African American
- Below target in greater Canton & Youngstown
- Strong diversity of community- type
- 2/3 new to process



Community Conversations


- Goal: 20,000 people
- 1-2 hours discussions
- Size: 8 - 200 at a time
- Conversation Kit to support discussions
- February - May '06



Online Choicebooks

Balanced
information
presented


Questions
asked

**School Funding and Accountability**

Option 4: Multi-sector regional plan for education

Option 4: Create a multi-sector, regional coalition to focus the resources of the region behind a common plan that will support the needs of students from pre-school to college, advocate for changes in the state's education system and foster stronger parent and community involvement in schools.

- **Pros:** The success of our education system requires all sectors to come together. A regional coalition can align the region's many institutions and organizations (including educational institutions, early-child care providers, local businesses, parents, community groups and elected officials) behind common goals.
- **Cons:** Managing a large multi-sector alliance can be difficult and take significant resources.
- **Degree of Difficulty to Implement:** Medium



Option 4. Multi-sector regional plan for education

Please indicate your level of agreement or disagreement with each of the following statements:

	Strongly Agree	Agree	Neither	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	I Don't Know
An investment of NEO Bucks in this option would significantly help to support school funding and accountability.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
An investment of NEO Bucks in this option would significantly help to revitalize our regional economy.	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

PREVIOUS

Click NEXT to continue

NEXT

Step 10 of 16

Regional Town Meeting II

- September 16, Rhodes Arena, University of Akron
- 1000 people prioritizing the options that will revitalize the region



Total Participation Numbers to Date



- More than 20,000 people have been touched by V&C thru presentations, forums & meetings
- About 3,000 people had signed up to be Ambassadors/Volunteers
- 428 facilitators are in the V&C database
- Total database has 11,000 names
- Nine Leadership Development Groups

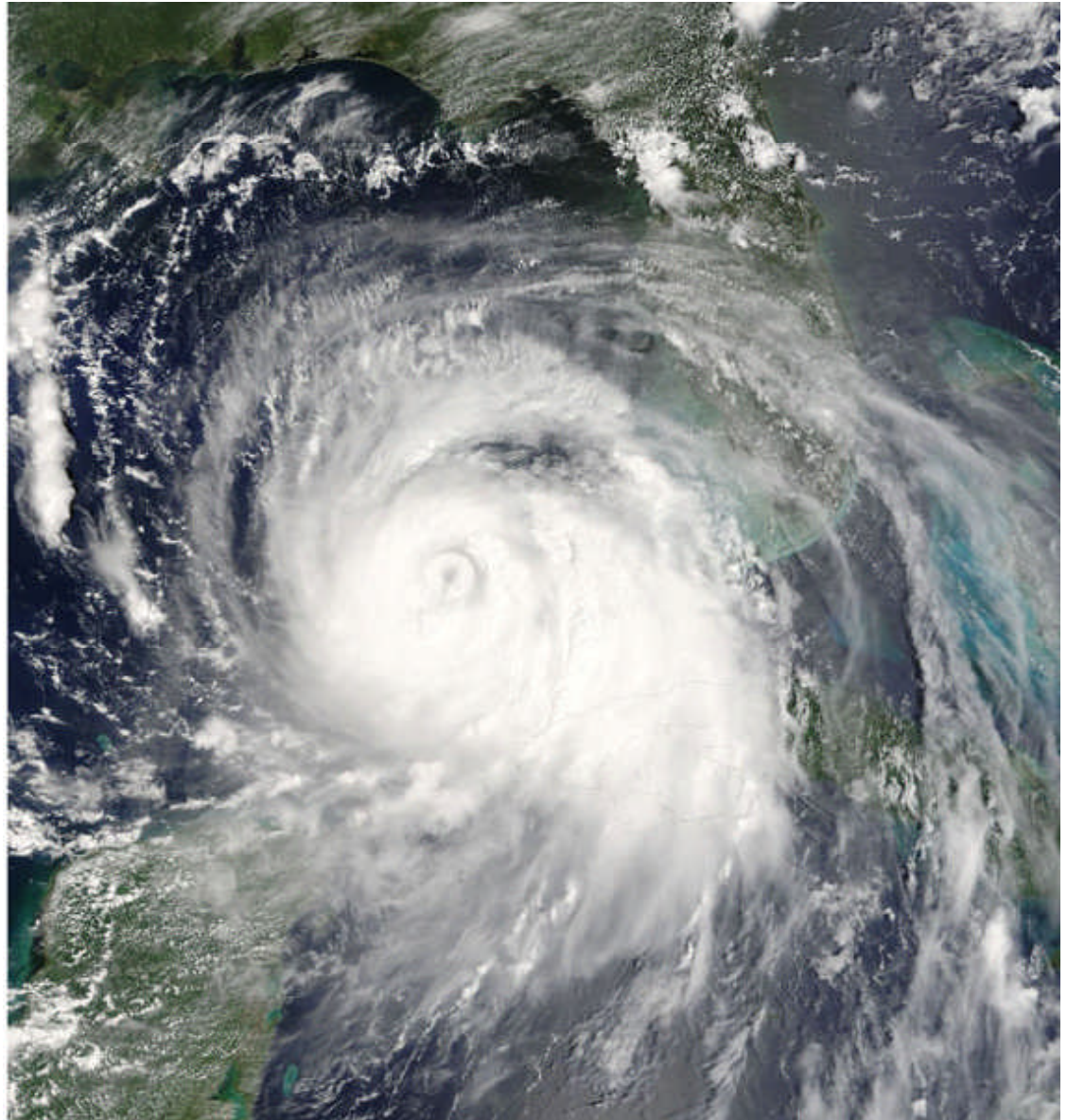
Q & A



Case Study: LRRC & UNOP

Hurricane Katrina

August 29, 2005



New Orleans, August 29, 2005



Storm's Impact on New Orleans

- ❑ 335,000 people lived in area with more than two feet of water
- ❑ 71% of housing damaged
- ❑ Nearly 100,000 jobs lost
- ❑ 119 of 126 schools damaged
- ❑ 23 of 33 firehouses damaged
- ❑ Infrastructure and utility systems devastated



Louisiana Recovery & Rebuilding Conference

- Sponsored by the AIA, APA, and others
- Setting initial recovery priorities for the Louisiana Recovery Authority
- MORE HERE!! – IMAGE OF THE FLOODED SO LA PARISHES
- Graphic of the agenda?
- Infrastructure, Economic Development, Public Services, & Environment

One Year Later



- ❑ Only half city returned
- ❑ Skyrocketing housing prices and labor shortage
- ❑ Only a few hundred checks issued by Road Home
- ❑ Regional employment up to 71% of pre-k level
- ❑ Levees rebuilt to pre-k levels
- ❑ Surging crime rate

A Long Road to a Recovery Plan

- FEMA ESF-14
- Louisiana Speaks
- Urban Land Institute
- Bring New Orleans Back
- Lambert Plans
- Unified New Orleans Plan

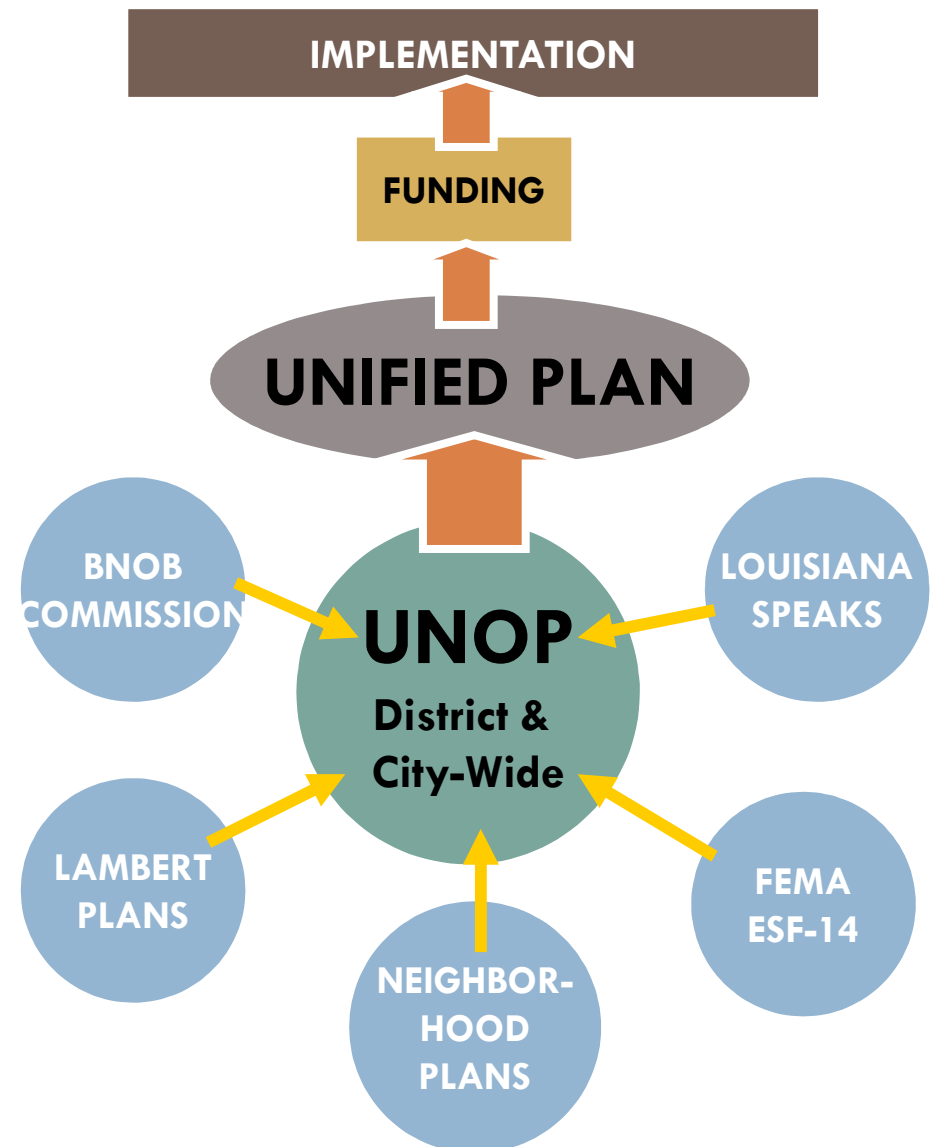


“New Orleans Residents Are Enraged Over Recovery Plan”

-- *Houston Chronicle*, 1/12/06

Unified New Orleans Plan Process

- MOU Between Mayor, City Council and Planning Commission
- City-Wide & 13 District Plans in 5 Months
- Overseen by Community Support Organization
- Initiated by LRA and funded by foundations



Community Congress I

The Times-Picayune

**“Survey Backs Plan for
Smaller Footprint But
Demographics of Voters
Questioned”**

-- October 29, 2006

- 350 participants
- 17% African American compared to 67% pre-k
- 41% with Annual Household Income of more than \$75,000 compared to 25% pre-k

Community Congress II



- Generate broad-based citizen input and a clear collective voice about the recovery
- Create sense of extended community throughout New Orleans and the diaspora
- Create a public constituency to support the unified recovery and rebuilding priorities
- Strengthen the level of public accountability

Community Congress II: Video



Community Congress II: Participation

- 2,500 People Across 21 Cities
- 25% w/ Annual Household Income Below \$20,000
- 64% African American
- 16 webcast sites at libraries and community centers with largest numbers in Seattle, Jackson, Austin, Memphis, Jacksonville
 - ▣ Watched program via Internet and discussed issues at local sites.
 - ▣ Voted on paper and submitted their responses via the Internet



Community Congress II: Participating Cities



Community Congress II: Viewing from Home

- Full day coverage on WYES
- Anchors from FOX8 and WDSU interviewed planners and officials during discussion periods



Community Congress III



- Present the major elements of the UNOP Citywide plan and gather collective feedback on those elements
- Create a public constituency to support and advocate for the Unified New Orleans Plan
- Increase the credibility of the Unified New Orleans Plan by demonstrating broad support for its key elements
- Strengthen the mutual commitment and accountability between leadership and the public for recovery efforts

Community Congress III: Who Participated?

- 1,300 People Across New Orleans, Atlanta, Dallas and Houston (with participants bused from Baton Rouge)
- 24% with annual income of less than \$20,000
- 55% African American
- 6% were 15-19 yrs



Reaction to CC3

- 92% “agree” that plan should go forward to attract funds
- 77% are “satisfied” with their contribution to the plan for future of city
- 93% are committed to remain engaged

The Times-Picayune

**“Citizens Say Yes to
Unified N.O. Plan”**

-- January 21, 2007

Reaction to CC3

The Times-Picayune

SATURDAY, JANUARY 27, 2007

Unified
N.O.
Plan
gaining
steam

*Recovery blueprint
impresses city officials*

Reaction from Leaders



“It doesn’t matter what the plan is if no one embraces it....What happened the first time [in BNOB] was there was no connection between planners, politicians, and people...[in UNOP] the ability for there to be a disconnect between the people and the planners was erased.”

-- Andy Kopplin, LRA

Q & A



Discussion



In your small groups, please discuss:

- At a group choose a project on which one of you is currently working. What methods fit best with your context? Where do Stakeholder meetings fit? Citizen deliberation fit?
- What issues, if any, inhibit the ability of stakeholder and citizen deliberations to dovetail on this project?

Thoughts for your future projects



To-dos for incorporating large-scale citizen deliberation into your mutli-stakeholder processes:

- Define roles - personnel and organizational
- Identify your available funding and get cost estimates
- Explore other citizen-based collaboration models
- Meet with one of our Associates and see what's happening in your area
- Sign up to be an AS Facilitator on americaspeaks.org
- Come join an AmericaSpeaks Behind the Scenes program

Resources for Large-scale Citizen Based Deliberation

Web resources:

- IBM Center for the Business of Government - www.businessofgovernment.org
- Public Deliberation: A Manager's Guide to Citizen Engagement, by AmericaSpeaks
- A Manager's Guide to Resolving Conflicts in Collaborative Networks, by O'Leary & Bingham

Books:

- Renn, O., Webler, T., & Wiedemann, P. (Eds.). (1995). Fairness and competence in citizen participation: Evaluating models for environmental discourse. Boston: Kluwer Academic Publishers.
- Whole Scale Change: Unleashing the Magic in Organizations, Tyson Dannemiller Associates
- Real Time Strategic Change, Robert Jacobs
- Deliberative Democracy Handbook, Eds, Gastil, J. and Levine, P.
- Surviving and Thriving Ecologically, Fiero, 2000 Dissertation

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Evaluations & Closing

